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November 1st.

MR. CASSIN in the Chair.

Fourteen members present.

Mr. Leslie exhibited specimens of limestone rock, containing fossil coral, charged with petroleum, from the base of the Devonian formation, near Lake Erie, western New York. He also exhibited a specimen of petroleum from the first well opened at Erie, Pa., on probably the same horizon as that of the former specimens. The oil was obtained at a depth of 750 feet.

November 8th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Nine members present.

November 15th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Twelve members present.

A paper was presented for publication entitled "On a new Cormorant from the Farralone Islands, California." By J. G. Cooper, M. D.

November 22d.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Fifteen members present.

A paper was presented for publication entitled "Synopsis of the eastern American Sharks." By Theo. Gill.

November 29th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Sixteen members present.

On report of the respective committees the following papers were ordered to be published:

Synopsis of the Eastern American SHARKS.

BY THEODORE GILL.

In the present article, I indicate the imperfection of our knowledge respecting the American Sharks, and have endeavored, as far as possible, with my limited materials, to rectify the synonymy. It will be perceived that I have connected names, proposed by Mitchill and others, with species belonging to different families from those to which they had been previously referred. No specific contradiction in the descriptions existing, and the diagnoses essentially agreeing with the species, it is probable that in such cases the generic relations of the species were *assumed* without verification of the generic characters. But

[Nov.